

Remarks

Reconsideration of this Application is respectfully requested.

Claims 15-34 are pending in the application, with claims 15, 18, and 34 being the independent claims. Claims 1-14 were previously canceled. Claims 21 and 22 are indicated to be allowable if rewritten to include all the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claims 15 and 34 are sought to be amended. These changes are believed to introduce no new matter, and their entry is respectfully requested.

Based on the following remarks, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider all outstanding objections and rejections and that they be withdrawn.

Allowed claims

Applicants appreciate the Examiner's allowance of claims 18 and 23-33.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102

On page 2 of the Office Action, claims 15-17 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,694,065 to Hamasaki et al. (hereinafter Hamasaki). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Independent claim 15, as amended, recites:

A circuit, comprising:

 a buffer;
 a sampling circuit capable of storing a charge of a sample, the sampling circuit having a switch; and
 a damping circuit coupled between the buffer and the sampling circuit;
 wherein the damping circuit is adapted to reduce charge glitches when the switch closes.

(See claim 15, *emphasis added*)

The Office Action relies on switches 50 and 60 of Hamasaki to allegedly teach the sampling circuit of Applicants' claim 15. However, upon inspection, switches 50 and

60 (FIG. 2 of Hamasaki) are merely inverters and do not constitute a sampling circuit.

Hamasaki does not teach or suggest *a sampling circuit capable of storing a charge of a sample*, as set forth in independent claim 15, as amended. Applicants therefore request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of independent claim 15.

Furthermore, claims 16-17, which depend from independent claim 15, also distinguish over Hamasaki for reasons similar to those set forth above with respect to amended independent claim 15, and further in view of their own features.

Therefore, Applicants respectfully request that the § 102 rejections be reconsidered and withdrawn.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103

On page 3 of the Office Action, claims 19 and 34 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hamasaki. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Independent claim 34, as amended, also distinguishes over Hamasaki for reasons similar to those set forth above with respect to amended independent claim 15, and further in view of its own features.

Moreover, claim 19, which depends from independent claim 15, also distinguishes over Hamasaki for reasons similar to those set forth above with respect to amended independent claim 15, and further in view of its own features.

Claim 20 was not specifically rejected in the Office Action. Nevertheless, claim 20, which depends from independent claim 15, also distinguishes over Hamasaki for reasons similar to those set forth above with respect to amended independent claim 15, and further in view of its own features.

Thus, Applicants assert that claims 19, 20, and 34 are patentable over Hamasaki. Therefore, for at least the reasons set forth above, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claims 19, 20, and 34 is respectfully requested.

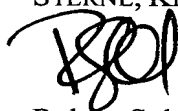
Conclusion

All of the stated grounds of objection and rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicants therefore respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider all presently outstanding objections and rejections and that they be withdrawn. Applicants believe that a full and complete reply has been made to the outstanding Office Action and, as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

Prompt and favorable consideration of this Amendment and Reply is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.



Robert Sokohl
Attorney for Applicant
Registration No. 36,013

Date: 5/9/05

1100 New York Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20005-3934
(202) 371-2600